

# Bibliography—1924.

NEW YORK CITY HERALD  
JANUARY 6, 1924

VEILED ARISTOCRATS. By Gertrude Sanborn. Washington, D. C.: The Associated Publishers.

THERE is perhaps no more promising material for the novelist of the day than the case of the cultured, intelligent negro or mulatto; especially the latter, who is often at least seven-eighths white. But it is also true that no subject is so difficult to manage. In fact, no one has as yet, been wholly successful with it, though Don Marquis's "Carter" does succeed, within its rather narrow limit. Miss Sanborn has attempted it, in a large way, but the theme is too much for her. Moreover, her character drawing is curiously spotty; after a good beginning, with much solidity and verisimilitude her people have an odd way of turning into absurdities, or fading into mere shadows. Thus the boy, "Rod Roscoe" is quite real until he leaves home to take up a residence in Chicago's negro quarter. But thereafter he becomes a sort of moving picture hero.

The educated negro sculptor, Harvard graduate and ex-soldier, is much better; indeed, if he were not tremendously idealized and hoisted upon a pedestal he might have been a convincing figure. The plot, too, is over fantastic, and goes to pieces at what should have been its climax. It turns upon the love of a supposedly white girl for the noble McClellan, the negro sculptor, but, at the last moment it turns out that she, too, has colored blood, so everyone may safely be happy. But the story is seriously meant, and in spite of its occasional amateurishness, it has an odd sort of life in it, more or less in spite of itself. And Miss Sanborn has a small vein of real humor which, however, does not suffice to keep the story from some absurdities.

## Books Received For Review

American Nights Entertainment, by Grant Overton, George H. Doran Company, New York.  
Carnegie Laugh and Feeding Among the Lilies, by Randall Albert Carter, from Bishop R. A. Carter, Chicago.  
The Conquest of Coomassie, by Byer Aldebaran, Coomassie Publishing Company, Los Angeles, Cal.  
Marching On, by Ray Strachey,

and Weeds, by Edith Summers Kelly, Harcourt, Brace & Company, New York.

Bronze, a book of poems, by Georgia Douglas Johnson, from G. D. Johnson, Washington, D. C.

Race Leadership, by Arnold Hamilton Maloney, professor of psychology and philosophy, Wilberforce University, from A. H. Maloney, Wilberforce, O.

Darker Phases of the South, by Frank Tannenbaum, G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

The W. G. N. (History of the Chicago Tribune), from the Chicago Tribune, Chicago.

President Coolidge, by William Ellwell Whiting, Atlantic Monthly Press, Boston.

Bread, by Charles G. Norris, E. P. Dutton Co., New York.

### ANOTHER EDITION OF ROGERS' BOOK IS OUT

Readers of the Defender who have been making inquiries about "From Superman to Man," by J. A. Rogers, well-known author and sociologist, will be glad to learn that another edition has just appeared. This book is without doubt the greatest and most popular one that has ever been written on the race question in America. It answers every argument that has ever been advanced by enemies of the Race, and does so in masterly style. All the most debated points, such as the relative mentality, beauty, sex instinct, chastity, odor, truthfulness, health and honesty of the two races are discussed and compared. Politics, the slavery of white people in America and other parts of the world, intermarriage, cannibalism among white people, ancient Negro civilization, attraction and repulsion of the races, religion and lynching are all dealt with in a gripping, interesting and pertinent between an American senator and a highly educated Pullman porter on a car going to California.



J. A. Rogers

All of these points are worked up into a presentation so clear that the simplest can read and understand, and yet is so fortified by proofs from the greatest scientists of all times that there is no joint in its armor in which the keenest spear of a white adversary can enter. It gives unquestioned proof that Negro has founded great civilizations, has ruled over areas as large as Europe and was prolific in statesmen, scientists, poets, conquerors, great religious and political leaders, the crafts, industry and commerce when the white race was wallowing in barbarism or sunk in savagery. The New York Evening Post very rightly said of it: "This porter, who had attended Yale, had traveled extensively and spoke several languages, had at his fingers' ends all the arguments necessary to prove that his Race is not a whit inferior to the Caucasian."

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Because of the manner in which it destroys superiority as based on color lines, there has been a determined effort to suppress it in certain quarters. It was refused by almost every white publisher of note, and is barred from many white public libraries. It has found its way, however, into many leading educational centers, such as Columbia and Chicago universities, fortified by proofs from the greatest Prof. Z. Baber, formerly of Chicago University, said: "From Superman to Man" is the best literature I have read on the subject. I am placing it on the required reading list for my classes." This great book is now in its fourth edition and has been re-written, containing much new and surprising information. All in all, it is a book that no aspiring member of the group can afford to miss.

"From Superman to Man" is published by the Lenox Publishing Company, 2372 Seventh Ave., New York City. It is handsomely bound in cloth, gold stamped, and is sold at \$1.60, postage paid. Advertisement.

### THE KLAN INSIDE OUT.

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Bishop I. E. Guinn  
633 E. 6th St. Cincinnati, Ohio  
**"History of Liberia"**  
By Henry F. Downing  
To Be Published Soon

Henry F. Downing of New York City writer and traveler has written an interesting "History of Liberia" which is being issued from The New York Age Press. Only a limited edition will be printed, and it will be sold for the small sum of 50 cents, postpaid; so those who would care to have a copy would be wise to place their orders at once with The Age Press, 230 West 135th street.

The booklet deals not only with the history of Liberia, but also discusses the opportunity offered Negroes in that little African Republic and gives hints to those who propose to emigrate to Liberia.

There are six chapters, under the following captions: I. Historical sketch of Liberia; II. Natural History; III. Civilized Liberians; IV. Aboriginal Liberians; V. Opportunity Liberia Offers Negroes for Self-Advancement; VI. Hints to Those Who Propose to Emigrate to Liberia.

Heywood Brown, writing in the New York World, has commented on Mr. Downing's "History of Liberia" in the following words:

"Liberia is a little country and Africa is not very near which may explain the reason why the United States seems so readily disposed to forget the existence of the small republic. We Americans have a capacity for flying into a great state of calm about things.

"But something must be done to stir us up. Our obligations to Liberia are unmistakably parental. This is our child. Not only is its government modelled after ours, but the plan and scheme of foundation and the whole history of Liberia are closely interwoven with that of America.

"Moreover, Liberia is the joint product of two races. Both white men and Negroes have labored side by side in trying to make the original dream come true. In the cemetery at Monrovia all color lines have been obliterated by the turf.

It is fitting that the history of Liberia should be related by Henry F. Downing, an American of several generations, who is closely acquainted with the history of Africa and particularly of Liberia. He is able to bring home to us a knowledge of that distant child of our land; and knowledge is all that is needed for closer sympathy and understanding. It is not so much that America is indifferent as that America has forgotten.

"HEYWOOD BROWN  
"New York City" March 26, 1923"  
**MRS. SAFFOLD'S STORY.**

The Advertiser feels impelled to draw special attention to a recent literary production by Mrs. Mildred Reynolds Saffold, of Montgomery, which is now off the presses. Under the subject title of "Sugar Babe," Mrs. Saffold has written a character sketch and biography of a negro girl of the Black Belt and given a graphic account of plantation life in the South of the seventies. "Sugar Babe" was the author traces the history of her subject from the cradle to the grave, giving us a study in character and personality, which in the opinion of The Advertiser, is usually meritorious. The writer's description of "Sugar Babe's" nuptial event, which Mrs. Saffold was privileged to witness in person, is unforgettable, particularly the incident of the bride's expression of grief as, at the beginning of the ceremony, she discovered that she was not clothed in pure white from head to foot.

Mrs. Saffold's understanding of negro psychology is well known to her Montgomery friends who are familiar with the readings of her numerous verses. She has written extensively for her own amusement, usually confining her efforts to delineations of negro character. "Sugar Babe," which appears in an attractively

printed little book, is her first extended narrative in prose form. It was written and printed for the benefit of the woman's club house fund, in which a number of local people are interested. A limited edition of 500 copies was printed.

NEW YORK CITY, DEC. 14, 1924  
**Sees Negro Supreme.**

"The Chosen People," by W. Forrest Cozart: Christopher Publishing House, Boston, \$2.

THE theory of the writer, a Negro, that the black man is destined to gain world supremacy might have proved tremendously interesting if the writer hadn't attempted to compress the vast history of his race (mostly in quotations from other writers, at that) into a book of only 153 pages.

Few will deny that the Negro has been badly treated throughout the ages by his white brothers or that in the United States he has made tremendous strides since the Civil War.

## Is White Civilization a Broken Thing?



THIS question with all its amazing possibilities confronts us today. It is the keynote of a sensational book just published—

**"These Eventful Years"**

Eighty of the greatest scientists, statesmen, writers and soldiers of our age have cooperated in making this book.

H. G. Wells in his contribution sees "the strong probability" of a setback that may last for generations. He predicts another world war between England and France, asserting that even now France is planning to use the African Negro to further her dream of empire.

Mr. Wells' brilliant article in *These Eventful Years* has caused a sensation. And no less stimulating is the survey of contemporary history written by J. L. Garvin of *The London Observer*. Mr. Garvin does not hesitate to say, after a searching analysis, that white civilization appears today a broken thing. Then he points the way to a solution.

**Greatest Modern Minds**

The contemporary leaders in every field tell other phases of the fateful story of the age in which we live. They have a single object—to penetrate the mass of present-day prejudice and half truth in order that civilization may advance into a new era of order and progress. Snowden, Chancellor of the Exchequer, reveals the real aims of labor; Maximilian Harden tells of the degenerate carousals at the Kaiser's court and the amazing story of Germany's rise and fall and future chances; Michael Farberman discloses the secret of the "Unseen Trousers" that wrecked the Romanov dynasty.

Others of the 80 contributors to *These Eventful Years* are Sir

**Men Who Made this Book**  
A Forecast of the Future H. G. Wells  
Germany Never Defeated

Dynamic Italy Gen. Ludendorff  
Anglo-American Relations Ex-Premier Nitti

Psychical Research Sir Oliver Lodge  
Propaganda Bertrand Russell  
Social Unrest Philip Snowden  
Decay of the Drama St. John Ervine  
Hidden Recesses of the Mind

Big Business Sigmund Freud  
Woman's Progress Chas. M. Schwab  
Radium Discoveries Lady Rhonda  
Mistakes of the American Navy Mme. Curie  
Admiral Sims

**Other Contributors**

J. L. Garvin, Gen. Mangin, Frank H. Simonds, Chas. Seymour, Brand Whitlock, Sir Horace Plunkett, Maximilian Harden, Leon Bourgeois, George Brandes, Wellington Koo, Sir Harry H. Johnston, Bernard M. Baruch, John Gould Fletcher, Clive Bell, Von Tirpitz and 50 others.

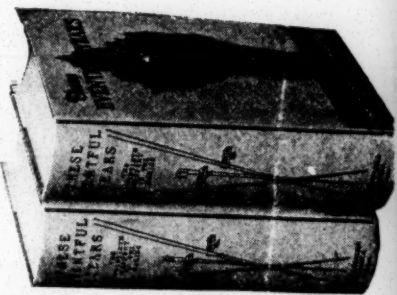
and scores of other owners have expressed even stronger praise of this provocative book.

**"These Eventful Years"**

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*These Eventful Years* comes in two volumes of 700 pages each, 160 full page illustrations, and numerous maps. If your bookseller cannot supply you, order direct from the publishers. The books will be sent to you C. O. D. for \$11.50 post paid.

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**What Readers and Reviewers Say**

We believe that it can be truthfully stated that no book in the history of modern publishing has received the acclaim of *These Eventful Years*. For instance, the *Bookman* says, "There has not yet appeared a work which is so informing, so stimulating and so entertaining as this survey of the century in which we play our part in history." And *Harper's Magazine* states that "It would take a reference library of 1000 volumes to cover the ground that has been summarized here." Booth Tarkington has crystallized his opinion of this great work by saying, "It is contemporary history made fascinating." Lloyd George, Dean Inge,



# Bibliography—1924

## 'LITTLE KING OF CHIMERIE' RENE MARAN'S LATEST

Winner of Prix Goncourt for Batouala Claimed to Have Done Better in This

By NORVAL P. BARKSDALE

Paris, France.—There has just appeared from the pen of Rene Maran, the Negro Frenchman and author of "Batouala," a new story, "The Little King of Chimerie." No doubt the thousands of Negroes who read "Batouala" will anxiously await the translation of his most recent work.

What was "Batouala"? What is "The Little King of Chimerie"?

"Batouala" was a constantly unrolling panorama of African life. There passed successively before our eyes a series of plains and infinite spaces, brilliant sunsets and white, metallic moonlights, forests whose trees were so tall that they seemed to join heaven and earth, swamps exhaling strange poisonous odors, and natives practicing quaint, weird rites. In a series of sketches remarkable for their vividness and strange, exotic charm Rene Maran gave to civilization a picture of Africa under European hegemony which is a sociological and ethnographical study as well as a work of great literary merit.

One will recall the many criticisms that were evoked when the much-coveted Prix Goncourt was awarded Rene Maran instead of the white author of a long, admirable, well-written psychological novel, "Marie Chapdelaine." "Batouala" was branded as a plagiarism, a school boy's composition, an anti-French pamphlet, and it was cruelly asserted that the author was incapable of a work of true literary merit. Will "The Little King of Chimerie" affirm or repudiate this accusation?

### Author Also Wrote Poetry

After the appearance of a work truly original and admired as being such, the public often expects the author to surpass himself and cause the triumph of his first work to be forgotten by the greater triumph of the second. Even if the works which follow are equal to the one which made the author famous, they are necessarily less enjoyed because however great his talent might be it is practically impossible to renew the surprise of a first revelation. Will the success of "Batouala" strengthen or weaken the reception accorded "The Little King of Chimerie"? Will one see in the second book the fruit of a mind growing more powerful

with the years, or will one see the decadence of a mind that had reached its maturity with "Batouala"?

"The Little King of Chimerie" is preceded by a long preface which is an illuminating introduction to Rene Maran the man. We first see him at the Lycee at Bordeaux, where he distinguished himself as a student and an athlete. It was during this period that appeared his first volume of poetry, "The House of Happiness." The sudden illness of his father, however, forced him to leave school to provide for his mother and two brothers. He accepted a position in Africa, and the touching letters written from there show how conscientiously he acquitted himself of his task. In the heart of Africa he pursued his studies with an unflagging zeal and gave to the world a second volume of poetry, "The Inner Life." Then came greater sorrows; successively he lost a brother, his father, and later his mother. Yet in spite of these crushing sorrows he continued his work. "Batouala" was published in 1921, and his fame was made. In short, the preface is an eloquent homage to the nobly idealistic soul and the cultured mind of Rene Maran.

### Story of World War

Ostensibly the story is a fairy tale for children, but in reality it is a charmingly written history of the World War. Rene Maran has shown in a delightful manner that the war was not only a struggle between two civilizations, between two cultures, the one founded on the ideal of liberty and human justice, the other founded on materialism and brute force. He sees the French as human beings and dreamers, and the Germans as a brutally cold product of civilization, the mean, sordid civilization that sacrifices all to material gains and recognizes no argument but brute force. Touching and numerous are the tributes that the author pays to the beauties of the French landscape, the charms of the French women and the nobility of French sentiments.

It is hard to compare "The Little King of Chimerie" with "Batouala" because of the difference in the themes. "Batouala" was new, original, fascinatingly exotic. "The Little King of Chimerie" is not so new. The theme has been treated many times since the war, perhaps more subtly. But one feels when one reads of the cruelty of the Germans that Maran is attempting to show that the much vaunted European civilization is not so far removed from the wild, savage life of the Africans. Civilization to Rene Maran is only a thin skin that covers the Tartar. In the final analysis the book shows plainly the similarity of human instincts and tendencies, whether the subjects be white or black. The French is unimpeachable, but the long oriental terms and the numerous allusions to ancient and medieval philosophies often appear as an attempt on the part of the author to display his learning. While the book is well written I do not think it will enjoy the same success as "Batouala."

## BOOK CHAT

By Arthur G. Banks  
For A. N. P.

### "By Sanction of Law"

There has just appeared from the presses of B. J. Brimmer Co., publishers, a novel, "By Sanction of Law," by Joshua H. Jones, Jr., a Boston colored man.

Mr. Jones is a graduate of Brown University. He was a member of the editorial staff of a large white daily, the Boston Post. When the Boston Telegram was launched, he joined its editorial staff, and much of that paper's success in the crowded Boston daily newspaper field has been attributed to Jones' experience and labors.

Shortly after his election, Mayor Curley invited Mr. Jones to become his personal secretary. Jones desires a career in "Belles Lettres" and while the political post was not appealing to him, he accepted it, from a sense of civic and racial duty. He has been made Acting Editor of the City Record, the official organ of the government of the city of Boston.

Jones, withal, is a poet, whose work exhibits a keen appreciation of the forces of human life and a thorough knowledge of technic; and he has published two volumes of verses. He also wrote the words to the song, "Dear Old Boston," the official song of the city.

"By Sanction of Law" is the first out and out novel written by an American Negro. It has been called the best defense of the colored race written since "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and an answer to "The Clansman" and "The Birth of a Nation." Its opening pages picture the deplorable condition of the race in the South, because of the inhuman treatment of the white people generally, and the criminal passivity of the best whites. The author says that the country cannot escape condemnation for its unfair treatment of the Negro. Later scenes are laid in the North, where the colored man's disadvantages and struggles in this more favorable section of the country are pictured. The necessary love story runs through the novel, and is told in a way that makes the reader's heart beat with those of the lovers; and contains many exquisitely tender passages. The book abounds in tense dramatic situations, interestingly worked up and solved. The plot is well sustained, and the whole work is one of great merit.

Joshua Jones has, in one bound, leaped into the select company of novelists who tell the story of a whole people in their book, that generations may be influenced by it, that the nobility and sufferings of that people may be better understood, and that thereby they may be accorded treatment more nearly

akin to justice.

## Book Chat

by  
MARY WHITE OVINGTON

### "Sidelights on Negro Soldiers"

By Charles H. Williams. Published by the B. J. Brimmer Co., 79 Myrtle St., Boston, 14 Mass. Price \$3.00. Postage 10c.

N EWTON G. BAKER, former Secretary of War, writes to Mr. Williams: "I am glad your frank narrative has been written. Of course, it shows the presence of the race question and of some of the prejudices and discriminations which grew out of it, but it also shows performance of high duty by the Negroes of America."

This is an excellent summing up of the volume. The story of high performance is most valuable, but the story of race discrimination is what makes the book interesting. The discrimination began with the draft and has not ended yet. Negro veterans are still discriminated against and segregated and forced to suffer humiliation. That they made as good a showing in the war as they did is most creditable since they had two enemies, the Germans and race prejudice in the army which may enter. There is the

One wonders when one reads tale of the Red Cross discrimination these "Sidelights" what would ination, its determination to have happened if Theodore keep colored nurses from going Roosevelt, the man of intense overseas. But the book is not democratic conditions, had all discrimination. It has many been in the Presidential chair tributes to the Americans who when we went into the great honestly believed in democracy war instead of the Southern and it is written in a spirit of aristocracy, Woodrow Wilson, fairness. "The kind of treat Colonel Young would have ment accorded to the men," Mr. been alive and a general now, Williams writes, "was due all and we should have many more most entirely to the attitude Negro officers, and above all of the officers who immediately the same national enthusiasm commanded them." In some in the hearts of the colored organizations commanding of men as when they went out to ficers were like overseers over fight. But the Commander-in- railway gangs, and again there Chief of the Army was a man would be a splendid man, like who stood for segregation of Colonel Ham, whose attitude the race, hence we have much changed the spirit of both officers and men and made racial that is heartbreaking in this volume. First the Negroes antagonism give way to com- were not allowed to fight. radeship. This was said of the Three-quarters of them were in stevedores, but it was true of non-combat service. There all of the army. And it is quite 46 engineer battalions, and 42 as true in times of peace as it were made up of Negroes. At times of war.

At Brest, these stevedores handled all supplies, working 16 hours at a stretch. "Though they worked in the rain and snow it was only after months had passed that they were provided with oil-skin suits and gum boots. Many broke their heatstrings in the 'Race to Berlin.'" Some were too illiterate to do other service, but others were able youths quite fit to be on the battle line.

The fourth that were trained as soldiers suffered much. We bear again of the 92d and the 93 Divisions, of the kindly attitude of the French and of the diabolical desire to discredit the Negro soldier on the part of the Southern American. We learn of the social welfare agencies, their good and their bad points. One "Y" story I had not remembered bearing: "A white sentry, gun on his shoulder, guards a white prayer meeting so that no Negro sol-



*The American Labor Year Book, 1923-4.* Edited by Solon De Leon and Nathan Fine. Rand School of Social Science. \$3.

It is an encouraging thing that so scientific and impartial a work as the 1923-24 edition of the "American Labor Year Book" can grow out of the bitter and divided condition of the American labor movement. The Rand School, a Socialist institution, has produced a book which discusses the Socialist Party, the Workers (Communist) Party, and Mr. Samuel Gompers with almost equal objectivity. Through its five successive editions the Year Book has been growing into an invaluable encyclopedia of labor, comparing favorably with the "International Labor Year Book" issued in England and with anything published by the International Labor Office in Geneva. Here are tabloid data on industrial conditions, taxes, immigration; labor laws, banks, schools, disputes; and summaries of the trade-union, labor-party, and cooperative movements at home and abroad. The section on the international relations of labor is a particularly careful and comprehensive summary—almost too detailed—from which the professional Red-hunters might derive a great deal of valuable information more accurate than that at their disposal. An epitome of labor history in 1922 and 1923 and a directory of labor organizations, with addresses, the world over, help make this new edition a handbook which must take its place beside the "Statesman's Year-Book" and the "World Almanac" on the desks of editors and students of politics and economics.

## NEGRO HOPE OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Chicago, Ill., May 22.—Mr. James Lindsay Renshaw, the printing and mechanical genius of the celebrated Pascal Covici Publishing company, has organized, in company with William H. A. Moore, The "Negro Booklovers' Guild." The first book published by this new publishing house will be Mr. Moore's "The Lay of the Purple Grape" in a subscription DeLuxe edition of only 350 copies hand printed on Japanese vellum.

Mr. Renshaw is a firm believer in what he calls, "The Negro Spirit in Literature." "We have been complaining," he recently said, "that the American branch of English literature lacks that freshness of spirit and those aspects of beauty that might make for a more generous vitality for the speech we affect to love so well. I am expecting the Negro elements in American life to provide us with this great vital force and to this end I have joined with Mr. Moore in a sincere endeavor to encourage, not mere writing, but the producing of genuine literature among Negroes."

Our first book will be Mr. Moore's, "The Lay of the Purple Grape," which poem I regard a bit of real literature embracing the distinctions of rare

charm and power. Mr. Moore is on the staff of our Chicago Literary Times and we find him a disciplined writer who has taken rank with the best of the writing clan in this section of the country. The Negro is going to do the big things in the American Literature of the future."

### HARTFORD CONN. COURANT JUNE 21, 1924

#### History of the Negro.

"THE NEGRO FROM AFRICA TO AMERICA," by W. D. Weatherford. George H. Doran company, New York. \$5.

This comprehensive study of the Negro race adds to a growing literature upon one of America's pressing problems. Dr. Weatherford traces the history of the black races from their native Africa through periods of slavery in the Indies and in the American south, down to the present moment when we are faced with the very serious matter of racial peace in this country. The author makes liberal use of all sorts of conflicting source material varying from Olmsted's studies of American slavery to Mrs. Smedes's "A Southern Planter" and from Lothrop Stoddard's Nordicities to the optimistic predictions of Mr. Pickens. Dr. Weatherford is content for the most part to assemble the evidence and to let his source advocates do the special pleading. Beyond the necessity of "bringing all the races together"—an object less easy to define than to state—he has little to suggest as a conclusion to the whole matter. Nor have we.

## American Labor Year Book 1923-1924

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## BOOK CHAT

### "GREEN THURSDAY."

By Julia Peterkini, published by Alfred A. Knopf, 730 Fifth avenue, New York City. Price \$2.50. By mail \$2.60.

To read the stories in this book is like nothing so much as listening to the Spirituals sung, not by trained voices to classical accompaniments, but let us say, by pupils of the colored school in Calhoun, Alabama, where primitive music is treated with reverence, where the original rhythm and harmony and intonation is religiously maintained. Such is no imitation of college glee club or choral singing, but is original, a part of the soil. And so these stories, of which "Green Thursday" (what a perfect name) is one, are a part of the soil, a reverent portrayal of Negro life on a remote plantation of South Carolina. They are no dressed up, there is nothing self-conscious about them, they are simple portrayals of the life of a peasantry, pathetically poor in material possessions, but rich in the things of the spirit. That the stories should be written by a white woman is natural. The Negro author is still too near his material to use it with perfect naturalness, but that they should be the work of a Southern woman is a happy sign. Here a Southerner is able at length to forget the past, in her portrayal of the black people among whom she lives. It should presage more to come.

Mrs. Julia Peterkin, was born in South Carolina and educated at Converse college, Spartanburg. Soon after her marriage, she went to live on an isolated plantation where she has spent many years. Carl Sandburg found her out and induced her to write. This volume is made up of short stories all of them dealing with the same locality and for the most part the same characters. They are in a difficult dialect, so that one dreads to see conversation and looks with pleasure at the lines

or description, but later one gets the hang of the thing which is largely a matter of elision of certain consonants. The turn of phrases is often quaint but there is a lack of imagery, excepting in the extraordinary sermon upon death preached at the meeting in the colored school. De life ob man is same lak de pat' ob de sun,

Een de mawnin' is rise up bright een de East—

Ebyting look shine an' beautiful.  
'E soon sta't plowin' e furrow' cross de element ob de sky.

'E strong, e brabe  
When de cloud come stan' een e way, 'e fight em.

E knock em—e ain' fraid;  
De lightin flash een e han'  
Tell de clouds fall dawn een rain.

But de time haffer come w'een 'e strengt' gwine fail.

E ceasted f'om climbin' higher.  
'E sta't fo drap todes de Wes.'

The story is so simple it would be a shame to tell it. It moves about a colored man, very poor, with a thin half-blind mule, a mule too weak properly to fight against the grass in the plough's path. But a man with intelligence, who refuses to accept superstition and who ploughs on Green Thursday, Ascension Day, the day Jesus went back to God. Abne Killdee, the man, and Mike the mule, plough the fields. Everyone else on the whole plantation had gone fishing in the river swamp. Preachers say that sinners are like goats and Christians like sheep. Kildee, as he ploughs, decides that he would a lot rather be a goat than a sheep. Goats have sense.

Thoughtfulness, love, the yearning for something beyond what he sees, these are in the figure of Kildee as in his ragged overalls and bare feet, he ploughs his field.

We cannot be too grateful to Mrs. Peterkin for telling us his story.



# NEGRO HISTORY IN THIRD EDITION

Washington, D. C., July 30.—So popular is the "Negro In Our History," a text book suitable for grammar and high schools published originally two years ago that the third edition revised has just come from the press of the Associated Publishers here.

The revised book has over a hundred pages of new material, enlarging the volume to a volume of nearly 500 pages including sketches of the modern phases of Negro life in America and numerous illustrations.

**A**LFRED A. KNOPF, publishers, announce a new "novel which tells the truth about the race problem" for September 5. The title is "The Fire in the Flint" and the author is Mr. Walter F. White, assistant secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Say the publisher.  
"Walter F. White has written a first novel of unusual dramatic power dealing with the Negro problem in Georgia. A Negro himself, he knows only too well the countless barriers and humiliations heaped upon his race by ignorant white people and the helplessness of the educated white people of the South to remedy these evils. Kenneth Harper, educated up North, returns to a small Southern town to practice medicine. He believes that he can live as his father lived without mixing into racial problems. Then slowly but inevitably a series of harrowing incidents of insults too vile to be ignored, draw him relentlessly into the age-old battle of white against black. His efforts to champion his race, his final struggle in the face of his sister's betrayal, and the murder of his brother form the most exciting kind of a narrative that rises to the tortured outcry of a soul suffering from the rank injustice of racial prejudice."

NEW

**A.** E. GONZALES has recently added to the literature of American negro folklore three volumes of tales in the Gullah dialect: "The Black Border," "With Æsop Along the Black Border," and "The Captain: Stories of the Black Border" (State Book Company). The Gullah dialect is unique among negro dialects. It is used by negro inhabitants of the South Carolina coast region and is extremely difficult. The books are provided with excellent glossaries, however, and the stories are so interesting as to be worth a tussle with the dialect.

The late Joel Chandler Harris was one of the first to recognize the rich possibilities from a literary viewpoint of negro folk stories. His delightful books derived from tales told on many Southern plantations, "Nights with Uncle Remus" and "Uncle Remus and his Friends," both from Hough-

ton, Mifflin and "Uncle Remus, His Songs and His Sayings" (Appleton), are commonly listed with juvenile literature. Nevertheless they deserve an important place in any discussion of negro folklore.

Another book for the student of negro folklore is Henry Edward Krehbiel's "Afro-American Folk-songs" (Schirmer), for it contains much information about African life and language as well as many of the best negro melodies. And a book that will furnish a good background for the study of American negro folklore is "Songs and Sayings from the Dark Continent, Recorded from the Singing and the Sayings of C. K. Simango and Madikane Cele," by Natalie Curtis Burlin (Schirmer). These two singers and tale-tellers were African-born students at Hampton Institute. In this connection A. W. Cardinal's "Natives of the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast" (Dutton) and J. Torrend's "Specimens of Bantu Folklore from Northern Rhodesia" (Dutton), should be mentioned also.

J. C. Branner's "How and Why Stories" (Holt) is still another collection of negro folklore.

But, after all, negro folklore is not the oldest folklore that may be called American. The folk tales of the North American Indians are legion and some good collections and books about them are the following: C. Bayliss' "Treasury of Indian Tales" (Crowell); "Around the Wigwam Fire," by J. H. Cornyn (Little, Brown); "Shoshone Folklore," by S. E. Olden (Morehouse); J. W. Schultz's "Friends of My Life as an Indian" (Houghton, Mifflin); "Around an Iroquois Story Fire," by M. Powers (Stokes); Natalie Curtis Burlin's "Indians' Book: an Offering by the Ameri-

can Indians of Indian Lore, Musical and Narrative, to Form a Record of the Songs and Legends of Their Race" (Harper), and "Taytay's Tales; Collected and Retold," by Elizabeth Willis de Ruff (Harcourt, Brace).

The entire subject of North American mythology is handled in a scholarly manner by Hartley Burr Alexander in volume X of "The Mythology of All Races," published by Marshall Jones. The volumes of this set may be purchased separately if desired.

From R. C. H., Swarthmore, Pa., comes the request for a list of a dozen or more of the best books published during the past year to be purchased for the library of a woman's club.

FIFTY YEARS IN MADAGASCAR. By JAMES SHREE, D.D. Illustrations. Map. London: Allen & Unwin. 12s. 6d. 1924.